

## **REMARKS**

### **I. Claim Amendments**

Applicants amended several claims and added several new claims. The amendments do not introduce new matter, insofar as they are supported by the specification, including the original claims, considered as a whole. For example, support for the amendment of claim 4 is found at page 5, lines 36-38 and the original claim 11, support for claim 19, at page 10, line 6, and support for new claims 43-52 in the original claims 3, 4, 14, 15, 16, 19, 24, 26, 27 and 31, respectively.

### **II. Request for Allowance**

Applicants request an indication of allowance of all claims. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any of the claims are not patentable, Applicants would appreciate the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel to resolve such issues in an expeditious manner.

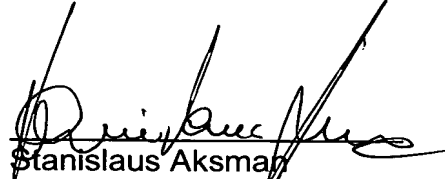
Authorization is hereby granted to charge or credit the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206 for any fees or overpayments related to the entry of this Amendment.

APPLN. NO. TBA  
PRELIMINARY AMDT. DATED JULY 14, 2006  
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Respectfully submitted,

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